

Ohio's Canals



Ohio & Erie Canal Lock 15, Upper Trenton Lock

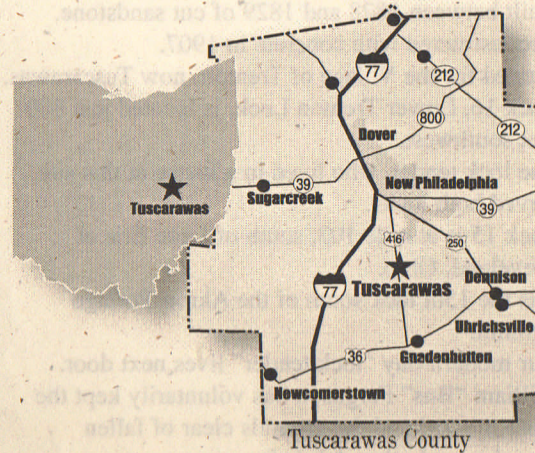
In the 1800's and early 1900's the Ohio & Erie Canal, which ran from Lake Erie at Cleveland to the Ohio River at Portsmouth, played a vital role in meeting the shipping and transportation needs of early Ohioans. At that time, the Village of Tuscarawas was known as "Trenton," and Lock 15 and Lock 16 (located just south of the village) acted as important loading and shipping points that connected Southern Tuscarawas County to the commerce opportunities located throughout the rest of Ohio.

The Warwick Lions Club invites you to step back in time to enjoy a picnic lunch here at the Lock 15 Historical Park, read about the history of the Lock on the Historical Marker, and examine this once vital relic from our past. After a visit here, you just might find yourself singing that old folk song, "Fifteen Miles on the Erie Canal," as you drive home.

Location



*Located about 8 miles south of
New Philadelphia, on SR 416, at the
south end of the Village of Tuscarawas.*



*Open from dawn to dusk year-round
FREE ADMISSION*



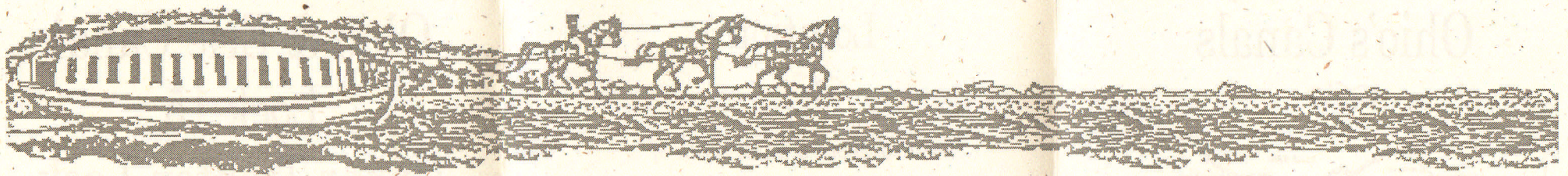
*Another project of Warwick Lions Club
"Serving the Village of Tuscarawas &
Warwick Township for over 30 years"*

Ohio & Erie Canal Lock 15 Upper Trenton Lock

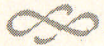


*Sponsored by the
Warwick Lions Club
& The Village of Tuscarawas*

*South Main Street
Tuscarawas, Ohio*



Formation of Lock 15 Historical Park



In 1989, members of the Warwick Lions Club learned how to preserve the lock from Terry Woods of the Canal Society of Ohio. The project officially began in the spring of 1990 when a wooden sign was erected to identify the new park. Trees, brush and debris were then removed from the lock and surrounding areas, and the once-exposed timbers at the base of the lock were covered with dirt.

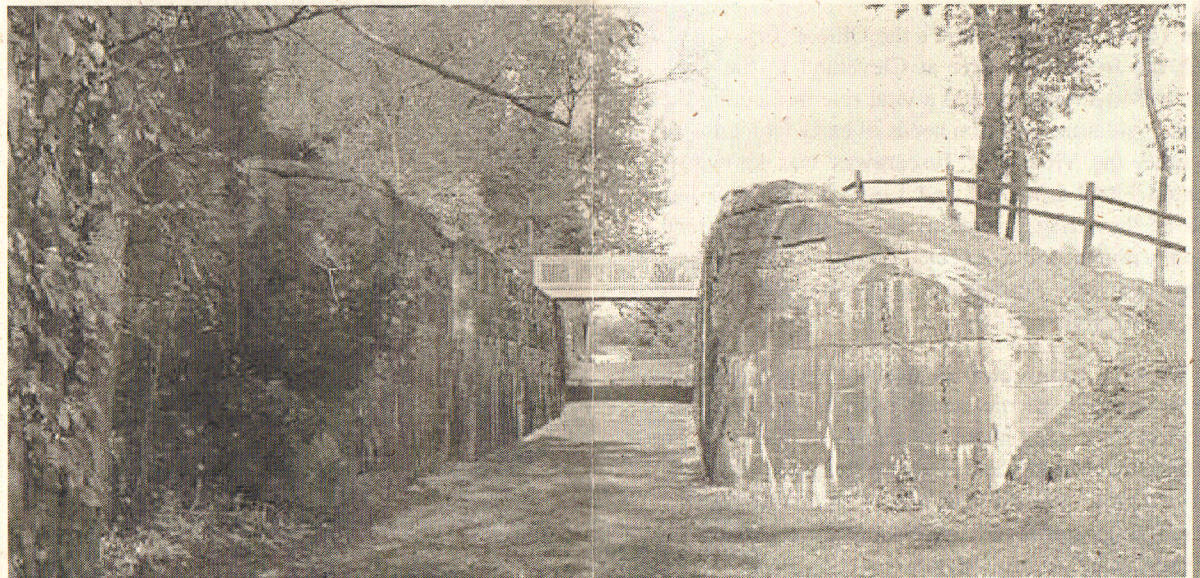
With a grant from the Reeves Foundation in 1998, many additional trees were cut and removed from the site, and the slopes were regraded and seeded to facilitate long-term maintenance. A County/State Litter and Recycling grant along with matching funds from the Reeves grant paid for the bridge (constructed of recycled-plastic lumber) over the lock.

In 2001, the remaining Reeves grant funds were used to purchase a split-rail fence. Village of Tuscarawas employees installed the fence, built the dirt ramp at the north end of the lock, and constructed the concrete pad for the picnic table. In 2006, the Warwick Lions constructed a kiosk to display historical photos, maps and details about Lock 15 and the Ohio & Erie Canal.

Facts About Lock 15



- Built between 1828 and 1829 of cut sandstone.
- Reconstructed with concrete in 1907.
- Named for the Village of Trenton, now Tuscarawas.
- Lock 16, Lower Trenton-Lock, is located just 800 feet southwest.
- The lock tender, who lived in a house at this site, served both locks.
- Lock 15 is at mile 103, south of Lake Erie at Cleveland, Ohio.
- It is the 15th lock south of the Akron-Portage Summit.
- Our modern-day "lock tender" lives next door. William "Bus" Ferguson has voluntarily kept the grass mowed and the grounds clear of fallen branches and other debris for many years.



Ohio Historical Marker



The Ohio Historical Marker is located beside State Route 416 and was dedicated on August 17, 2001. Guest speakers at the dedication included Earl Olmstead, Tuscarawas County historian, and Terry Woods, President of the Canal Society of America.

The historical marker was obtained with the help of Fred Miller, President of the Tuscarawas County Historical Society. Funding for the marker came from the Rosenberry Foundation, the Longaberger Company and the Ohio Bicentennial Commission.

Side "A" of the marker presents basic historical facts about the Upper Trenton Lock. Side "B" discusses the Ohio & Erie Canal in Warwick Township and its economic and social significance to the area.